

## Master Gardener Board Meeting

February 7, 2012

Present: Mary Shepard, Co-President; Linda Petek, Co-President; Mary Wiedenmeier, Past Co-President; Kathy Daniels, Past Co-President; Jane Kuhn, Co-Vice President; Ivan Placko, Co-Vice President; Sue Egner, Treasurer; , Linda Baeten, Secretary; Roy Anne Moulton, Marge Menacher, Carole Dorsch, Audrey Ruedinger, Anne Murphy, Diana Dougherty.

Excused: Alice Graf, Past Treasurer

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sue Egner provided a handout. Total in the treasury is \$14,237.07, which includes a CD that is due in February. Sue will check into options for renewal. The Treasurer's report was accepted as read.

**Secretary's Report:** January Board minutes were e-mailed to Board members and to Jean Reed to be posted on the Website. It was mentioned that they have not yet appeared on the Website. No corrections were made.

### Old Business

- **Bowen Street Neighbor Works Project** – has been taken on by Linda Loker and Carole Dorsch. We may still have one Master Gardener sign left for the project. Mary will check with the UWEX office.
- **Meeting Speakers** – Linda Petek has been researching. She has lined up:
  - March – Andy Kreiger, Bee Keeping
  - April – Kimberly Miller, UWEX temporary agent, on trees and/or shrubs.
  - May – Anita Carpenter, butterflies
  - Garden walks – if anyone knows someone, let Linda Petek know. Some suggestions were offered:
    - Walk-a-thon to some of our Core Projects, like last year: Octagon House, Community Gardens, Lincoln School, Animal shelter to mention a few.
    - Wild Ones Center on Strobe Island.
    - UWEX in Green Bay has a demonstration garden.
    - Johnson's Nursery in Menomonee Falls has a good speaker.
    - Will Allen in Milwaukee
  - Plan to have project presentations at Business meetings.
    - Tri County Home and Garden Show (Cindy Meszaros and Joni Pagel), Webster and Washington School projects (Marge Menacher), Wild Ones Shoreline Restoration (Mary Wiedenmeier), Theda Care Gardens (Diane Iott). Jane will contact the project leads.
    - Bowen Street Neighbor Works in March
    - Need project pictures showing before, during and after.
  - Need for a working Power Point presentation library to be developed for presentations at large. Look for a "tech" person in the membership. Roy Anne mentioned applying for a grant in the fall to obtain a monitor.

### New Business

- **Replacement of Newsletter Editor** – Linda Tobey would like to be done after the March Newsletter. Mary will ask the membership at the next business meeting for a volunteer(s).
- **Level II training** has begun today at the Coughlin Center.
- **New requests for speakers/projects** – Mary will ask the UWEX to develop a fillable PDF form to send to those who have a request and forward these on to her or Linda Petek. Four requests came in last week:
  - Tom Donovan from the Most Blessed Sacrament Church requests help setting up flower beds. They will provide the plant material, tilling and weeding. No money is involved. There was a question as to whether religious projects were OK. Mary will bring it to the membership meeting.
  - Winnebago County Home Show at the Sunny view Expo Center is looking for a speaker for Friday evening and offered us a booth. Roy Anne offered to contact them regarding speaking. The Board declined having a booth.

- South Park Middle School students had sent a letter offering worm castings for sale. The Board declined. Mary will send them a letter.
- LIR has requested help maintaining 100 planters throughout the city of Oshkosh. The Board declined.
- **Project Applications/Lead Meeting** – Jane provided a handout of projects. The Board considered each. Sue moved, Diana seconded to approve all projects, motion carried unanimously. There was one exception:
  - Habitat for Humanity had requested \$1,000. Ivan moved to limit the project to \$500 as outlined in the SOPs, with the understanding that if they exceed that amount, they can come back to the Board for another request. Diana seconded, motion carried unanimously.
  - The Newsletter and Website need to be updated with current projects.
  - Project Lead meeting to be held February 29 at the Coughlin Center. Ivan amended the SOPs to include language regarding Core Project applications and summary reports on pages 3 & 4. He also developed a Fund Request form for the projects. Jane moved to approve and present these item changes to the Project Leads at the meeting. Diana seconded, motion carried unanimously.
  - Ivan will notify the project leads of how much funding their project were approved for.
  - Question of how large to allow committees to become: Consensus was to allow the Committee Lead the authority to limit the amount of people on their committee, but may take on auxiliary helpers for larger projects.
- **Education Committee** – Roy Anne
  - Winter Escape/Summer Dreams was a huge success, but some problems were:
    - Not getting some confirmation letters and maps out to participants in time.
    - Parking
    - Don Engebretsen went a half hour over time. Vendor time was shortchanged.
    - Estimate net income is \$1,000.
  - 54 are signed up for the Madison Bus trip. Expect to make \$850.
  - The Philadelphia Garden Tour will move forward. Roy Anne is working on the details.
    - Will pay \$750 to the Airline to hold 30 seats, due next week.
    - Hotel is chosen
    - Working on ground transportation
    - Will send information and costs to members
    - Need to know by the end of February. A 50% deposit is due by March 12.
  - Roy Anne provided a report detailing profits of education events for 2010 & 2011 based on Alice's figures.
    - We have never had a loss, though break-even points are difficult to determine.
    - Most participants are not Master Gardeners. This fulfills our goal of educating the community.
    - Master Gardeners who serve on the Education Committee do pay the full price for participation in the events.
- **Lawanda Jungwirth Book Project** - Lawanda is working on the final proof. We expect to have 500 books ready to sell at the Tri-County Home and Garden Show. The books cost \$4.05, and will sell for \$15.00. Events could be arranged at libraries, book stores and Stuart's Landscaping. Outreach could be done to Outagamie Master Gardeners.

#### **Any New Business:**

##### **Emeritus Status for Al and Judy Harms** – Linda Baeten

Linda received a request from Al and Judy Harms to be granted Emeritus Status. Jane read the requirements from the By Laws. Linda Baeten moved to grant them Emeritus status. Seconded by Marge Menacher, motion carried unanimously. Linda will notify them and get an article in the Newsletter.

##### **Prairie Area** – Sue Egner

The Conservancy Area by Oshkosh North High School contains an overgrown prairie area. This could possibly be a new project, but a lead would have to be found. The Parks department would mow it down for us. Sue will get more information.

#### **Next Board meeting: March 6, 2012, 6:00 PM, Volunteer Room at the Coughlin Center**

Meeting Adjourned, Diana/Audrey, unanimously 8:20 pm

Respectfully Submitted, Linda Baeten